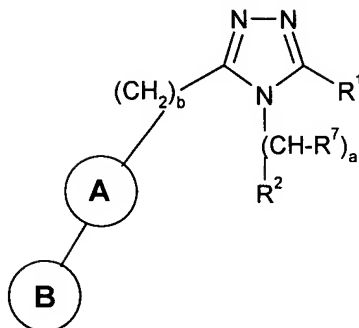


In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I),



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof,
wherein

R¹ represents C₁-C₆ alkyl, -(CH₂)_c-[C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl]-, -(CH₂)_c-W
or -(CH₂)_c-Z-(CH₂)_d-W;

W represents C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkyloxy, -CO₂[C₁-C₆ alkyl],
-CONR⁴R⁵, a phenyl group, or NR⁴R⁵, ~~het² or het³~~, the phenyl
group being optionally substituted with one or more groups
independently selected from halogen, CF₃, OCF₃, R³, OR³, CO₂R³,
CONR⁴R⁵, CN, SO₂NR⁴R⁵ and NR³SO₂Me;

Z represents O or S(O)_g;

g represents 0, 1 or 2;

R² represents a phenyl group, optionally fused to a 5- or 6-
membered aryl ~~or heterocyclic group which may contain one or
more heteroatoms selected from N, O or S;~~ the phenyl group and
the optionally fused aryl group being optionally substituted

with one or more groups independently selected from the list defined below;

Ring **A** represents piperidindiy ~~a 4-, 5- or 6- membered saturated heterocyclic group containing at least one N;~~

Ring **B** represents a phenyl group or het^1 , each group being optionally substituted with one or more groups independently selected from the list defined below;

R^7 independently represents H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, OR^3 , $-(CH_2)_e-R^3$ or $-(CH_2)_f-O-(CH_2)_e-R^3$;

at each occurrence R^3 independently represents H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by Y, $-(CH_2)_g-[C_3-C_8 \text{ cycloalkyl}]$, phenyl, or benzyl, ~~pyridyl or pyrimidyl~~;

at each occurrence R^4 and R^5 independently represent H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl (optionally substituted with C_1 - C_6 alkyloxy), $(CH_2)_gCO_2-[C_1-C_6 \text{ alkyl}]$, $-SO_2Me$, $-(CH_2)_g-[C_3-C_8 \text{ cycloalkyl}]$, SO_2Me , phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl; ~~or R^4 and R^5 together with the N atom to which they are attached represent a heterocyclic group of from 3 to 8 atoms;~~

Y independently represents a phenyl group, or NR^4R^5 ~~or het^4~~ , the phenyl group being optionally substituted with one or more groups independently selected from halogen, CF_3 , OCF_3 , R^4 , OR^4 , CO_2R^4 , $CONR^4R^5$, CN, $SO_2NR^4R^5$, NR^4SO_2Me and $-NR^4R^5$;

het^1 represents pyridyl or pyrimidinyl ~~a 4-, 5- or 6- membered saturated, or unsaturated, heterocyclic group containing at~~

~~least one N (but which may also contain one or more O or S atoms);~~

~~het² represents a 4, 5, 6 or 7 membered saturated, or unsaturated, heterocyclic group containing at least one N (but which may also contain one or more O or S atoms), optionally substituted with one or more groups independently selected from the list defined below;~~

~~het³ represents a 4, 5, 6 or 7 membered saturated, or unsaturated, heterocyclic group containing at least one O (but which may also contain one or more N or S atoms), optionally substituted with one or more groups independently selected from the list defined below;~~

~~het⁴ represents a 4, 5, 6 or 7 membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group containing at least one N (but which may also contain one or more O or S atoms), optionally substituted with one or more groups independently selected from the list defined below;~~

substituents for R², Ring B, and ~~het¹, het², het³ and het⁴~~ are independently selected from the following list: halogen, CF₃, OCF₃, R³, -(CH₂)_e-SO₂Me, -(CH₂)_e-OR³, -(CH₂)_e-CO₂R³, -(CH₂)_e-CONR⁴R⁵, -(CH₂)_e-CN, -(CH₂)_e-SO₂NR⁴R⁵, -(CH₂)_e-NR³SO₂Me, -(CH₂)_e-COR³, -(CH₂)_e-OCOR³, -(CH₂)_e-NHCOR³, -(CH₂)_e-NR³COR⁶ and -(CH₂)_eNR⁴R⁵;

at each occurrence R⁶ independently represents H, C₁-C₆ alkyl optionally substituted by Y, -(CH₂)_g-[C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl], phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl or pyrimidyl;

a and b independently represent 0 or 1;

c, d, e and g independently represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

f independently represents 1, 2, 3 or 4;

provided that:

(i) a + b cannot equal 0; and

(ii) provided that when R^1 represents $-(CH_2)_c-Z-(CH_2)_d-W$ and W represents NR^4R^5 or any N linked heterocyclic group then d must not be 0 or 1; and

(iii) provided that when R^2 represents a phenyl group substituted by a group of formula $-(CH_2)_eOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_e-CO_2R^3$ or $-(CH_2)_eOCOR^3$; or

~~het¹ and/or het² are~~ is substituted by a group of formula $-(CH_2)_eOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_e-CO_2R^3$ or $-(CH_2)_eOCOR^3$; or

when R^7 represents $-OR^3$ or $-(CH_2)_f-O-(CH_2)_e-R^3$ and e is 0; or

when W represents a phenyl group substituted with $-OR^3$ or $-CO_2R^3$; and

R^3 represents an alkyl group substituted with Y, and Y represents NR^4R^5 ~~or an N-linked het³~~;
then R^3 must represent C_2-C_6 alkyl substituted with Y.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen or $-(CH_2)_e-OR^3$.

Claims 3-4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein Z is O.

Claims 6-9 (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein a is 1 and b is 0.

11. (currently amended) A compound ~~according to claim 1, which is~~ selected from the group consisting of:

(S)-4-[5-Butyl-4-(1-phenyl-ethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-isobutyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

(S)-4-[5-Methyl-4-(1-phenyl-ethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

4-[4-Benzyl-5-butyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-isopropyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-cyclopropyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

(S)-2-{4-[5-Methyl-4-(1-phenyl-propyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-propyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[4-Benzyl-5-(2-chloro-phenoxy-methyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-butyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

(S)-2-{4-[5-Methyl-4-(1-phenyl-ethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[4-Benzyl-5-(4-fluoro-phenoxyethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[5-Methyl-4-(3-methyl-benzyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

(S)-2-{4-[5-Methyl-4-(1-phenyl-ethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-piperidin-1-yl)-pyrimidine;

2-{4-[4-(3-Fluoro-benzyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

4-(4-Benzyl-5-benzyloxymethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

4-(4-Benzyl-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

(R)-2-[3-Methyl-5-(1-pyrimidin-2-yl-piperidin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]triazol-4-yl]-2-phenyl-ethanol;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-4-methyl-pyrimidine;

2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine;

4-(4-Benzyl-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-piperidine;

~~2-[4-(4-Benzyl-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrazine;~~

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~(S)-4-[4-(1-Phenyl-ethyl)-5-piperidin-1-ylmethyl]-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(4-methoxy-piperidin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~(S)-4-[5-(4-Methoxy-piperidin-1-ylmethyl)-4-(1-phenyl-~~
~~ethyl)-4H-{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-~~
~~{1,2'}bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-~~
~~yl)-4H-{1,2,4}triazol-3-ylmethyl]-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid~~
~~benzyl ester;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxymethyl)-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-((3R)-3-methoxy-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-((3S)-3-methoxy-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~1-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-~~
~~yl)-4H-{1,2,4}triazol-3-ylmethyl]-pyrrolidin-3-ol;~~
~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-~~
~~yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(2-oxa-5-aza-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-~~
~~ylmethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-~~
~~{1,2'}bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(4-methoxy-piperidin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-~~
~~{1,2,4}triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-(4-Fluoro-benzyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-~~
~~3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-(3-Methoxy-benzyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-~~
~~3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[5-Methyl-4-(3-methyl-benzyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-~~
~~3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

4-[4-(3-Chloro-benzyl)-5-methyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-
3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

N-Benzyl-2-[4-benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-
[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-acetamide;

2-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy]-ethylamine;

[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-ethyl-amine;

[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amine;

[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-(3-methoxy-propyl)-amine;

~~1-[4-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-
[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-
piperazin-1-yl]-ethanone;~~

~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(4-methanesulfonyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-
4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-
[1,2]bipyridinyl;~~

~~N-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-methanesulfonamide;~~

~~——[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-methyl-
amine;~~

~~——[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-
yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-(3-methoxy-propyl)-methyl-
amine;~~

~~——4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-
yl)-3'-methyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~——4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-
yl)-3'-trifluoromethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-
[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-3'-carbonitrile;~~
~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-3'-carboxylic acid amide;~~
~~(S)-4-[4-(1-Phenyl-ethyl)-5-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-morpholine trihydrochloride;~~
~~(S)-4-[4-(1-Phenyl-ethyl)-5-(4-pyrimidin-2-yl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-morpholine trihydrochloride;~~
~~1-[4-Benzyl-5-(1-pyrimidin-2-yl-piperidin-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-piperidin-3-ol;~~
~~(R)-2-[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-pyrrolidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester;~~
~~(R)-4-[4-Benzyl-5-(tetrahydro-furan-3-yloxymethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~(S)-4-[4-Benzyl-5-(tetrahydro-furan-3-yloxymethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~{[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl]-methyl-amino}-acetic acid tert-butyl ester;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(tetrahydro-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(tetrahydro-furan-2-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-ethoxymethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~
~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(2-methoxy-ethoxymethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

[4-Benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy]-acetic acid tert-butyl ester;

N-Benzyl-2-[4-benzyl-5-(3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl-4-yl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy]-acetamide; and

4-(4-Benzyl-5-methylsulfanylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-pyrazol-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-[1,2,3]triazol-2-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(pyridin-4-yloxymethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl.~~

12. (currently amended) A compound ~~according to claim 11, which is~~ selected from the group consisting of:

4-[4-Benzyl-5-butyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl; and

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

4-(4-Benzyl-5-benzyloxymethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl.

~~4-(4-Benzyl-5-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~(S)-4-[4-(1-Phenyl-ethyl)-5-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl;~~

~~4-[4-Benzyl-5-(4-methoxy-piperidin-1-ylmethyl)-4H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl]-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,2']bipyridinyl.~~

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A method of treatment of aggression, Alzheimer's disease, anorexia nervosa, anxiety disorder, asthma, atherosclerosis, cardiac failure, cardiovascular disease, cataract, central nervous system disease, cerebrovascular ischemia, cirrhosis, cognitive disorder, Cushing's disease, depression, diabetes mellitus, dysmenorrhoea, edema, emesis, endometriosis, gastrointestinal disease, glaucoma, gynaecological disease, heart disease, hypertension, hyponatremia, intrauterine growth retardation, ischemia, ischemic heart disease, lung tumor, micturition disorder, mittleschmerz, motion sickness, neoplasm, nephrotoxicity, non-insulin dependent diabetes, obesity, obsessive/compulsive disorder, ocular hypertension, premature ejaculation, premature labor, pulmonary disease, Raynaud's disease, renal disease, renal failure, male and female sexual dysfunction, sleep disorder, spinal cord injury, thrombosis, urogenital tract infection, urolithiasis, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), claim 1, to a patient suffering from such a disorder.

15. (currently amended) A method according to claim 14 wherein the disorder is dysmenorrhoea or anxiety disorder.

Claims 16-17 (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation including a compound of formula (I), claim 1, or a

pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluent or carrier;

Claims 19-21 (canceled)